United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
5 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Austria,* Belgium,* Bulgaria,* Cyprus,* Czech Republic,* Denmark, Estonia,* Finland,* France,* Germany, Greece,* Hungary,* Iceland,* Ireland,* Italy,* Latvia,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Malta,* Netherlands, Poland,* Portugal,* Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Sweden* and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution: Situation of women and girls in Afghanistan

The Economic and Social Council,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[3] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[4] the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[5] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[6] and the Optional Protocols thereto on the involvement of children in armed conflict[7] and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[8] the Beijing Declaration[9] and Platform for Action,[10] the further

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[2] General Assembly resolution 2200A (XXI), annex.

[3] General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.

[4] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

[5] See General Assembly resolution 48/104.

[6] General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

[7] General Assembly resolution 54/263, annex I.

[8] Ibid., annex II.

[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.*

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actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session,[11] accepted humanitarian rules as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[12] and other instruments of human rights and international law,

Recalling that Afghanistan is a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[13] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[14] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[15] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[16] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[17] the Conventions of 12 August 1949, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[18]

Reaffirming that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the importance of the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), on women and peace and security, and 1460 (2003), on children and armed conflict, and in this context recognizing the recent Security Council mission to Afghanistan, from 13 October to 8 November 2003, which reviewed, inter alia, the humanitarian and human rights situation of women,

Welcoming the entry into force on 26 January 2004 of a new Constitution following the successful outcome of the Constitutional Loya Jirga, at which women played a prominent and crucial role, while also welcoming particularly the provisions of the new Constitution which state that the citizens of Afghanistan, whether men or women, are equal before the law and that at least two women are to be elected to the Wolesi Jirga (Lower House of Parliament) from each province, as a national average, and which provide for half of the President's nominees to the Meshrano Jirga (Upper House of Parliament) to be women,

Welcoming also the continuing commitment of the Afghan Transitional Administration to the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls, to the restoration of the active participation of Afghan women in political, economic and social life, to the education of girls as well as boys and to the opportunity for women to work outside the home,

Welcoming further the fact that the Back-to-School campaign launched by the Ministry of Education and the United Nations Children's Fund has been a major success and 4.2 million children are now enrolled in school, while recognizing the need for the enrolment rate of girls in school to improve considerably,

Welcoming the inclusion of women in the Transitional Administration, the Judicial Reform Commission, the Independent Human Rights Commission, the

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[10] Ibid., annex II.
[11] General Assembly resolution S-23/3, annex.
[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.
[13] General Assembly resolution 260 A (III), annex.
[14] General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.
[15] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.
[16] General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.
[17] General Assembly resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.
[18] A/CONF.183/9.

Constitutional Commission and the Secretariat of the Constitutional Loya Jirga, and stressing the importance of the full and effective participation of women in all decision-making processes regarding the future of Afghanistan,

Welcoming also the fact that the National Development Framework of the Transitional Administration reflects the needs of, and the importance of the role to be taken by, women and girls in the process of peace-building, reconstruction and development, and welcoming in this regard the assistance provided by the international community to achieve these goals,

Welcoming further the efforts of Afghanistan's neighbouring countries, which host millions of Afghan refugees, especially women and children, and have provided humanitarian assistance in many areas, such as education, health and other basic services,

Recognizing that, in spite of recent improvements, women in Afghanistan continue to face gross violations of their rights in many parts of the country and in particular in rural areas,

Recognizing also that Afghan women are primary stakeholders and agents of change, who must have the opportunity to identify their own needs, interests and priorities in all sectors of society as full partners in the rebuilding of their society,

Strongly emphasizing that a safe environment, free from violence, discrimination and abuse, for all Afghans, is essential for a viable and sustainable recovery and reconstruction process,

1. *Welcomes*:

(a) The ongoing commitments made by the Afghan Transitional Authority to recognize, protect and promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to respect and promote respect for international humanitarian law;

(b) The provision of the new Constitution which states that the citizens of Afghanistan, whether men or women, are equal before the law;

(c) The ratification by the Afghan Transitional Administration of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[15] on 5 March 2003;

(d) The ongoing security sector reform processes being undertaken by the Afghanistan Transitional Administration with the support of the international community, including the demobilization, disarmament and reintegration of former combatants and the recruitment of a new cadre of women police;

2. *Also welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on the Status of Women on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan;[19]

3. *Urges* the Afghan Transitional Administration and future Government:

(a) To ensure that any legislative, administrative and other measures support the full enjoyment by women and girls of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including by mainstreaming gender issues into the activities of all Afghanistan Transitional Administration ministries;

[19] E/CN.6/2004/5.

(b) To enable the full, equal and effective participation of women and girls in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life throughout the country at all levels;

(c) To protect the right to freedom of movement, expression and association for women and girls;

(d) To implement fully the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and prepare the initial report due in March 2004 and to raise awareness and strengthen the knowledge of women and girls and their families about their rights, including the full enjoyment of all human rights by women and girls;

(e) To ensure that the provisions of the new Constitution are implemented fully so as to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all women;

(f) To ensure that the electoral processes are carried out and monitored closely to make certain that women are able to register, participate fully and support special measures that would guarantee that they are represented in local, provincial and national government positions;

(g) To ensure that the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and the permanent Afghan judicial institutions have adequate human and financial resources to fulfil their mandates and address gender perspectives in line with international standards;

(h) To continue its efforts to re-establish the rule of law, in accordance with international standards, inter alia, by ensuring that law enforcement agencies respect and uphold human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a particular emphasis on access to justice for women;

(i) To continue its efforts to reflect a gender perspective in the training and activities of its police, army, prosecutors and judiciary and to promote the recruitment of Afghan women in all ranks;

(j) To review and improve the practices of law enforcement personnel when dealing with women victims of violence, particularly those accused of offences based on tradition or imprisoned for social reasons, to protect them from domestic and sexual violence and with regard to trafficking;

(k) To raise awareness of the need to prevent and eliminate violence, including domestic and sexual violence, against women, with the aim of changing the attitudes and behaviour that allow such crimes to take place, and strengthen efforts to prevent and eliminate violence against women by using legislative measures;

(l) To ensure that gender-sensitive approaches are applied in the development and application of procedures during data collection for the census and the registration of voters to deliver universal suffrage and the full participation of women in the national elections in 2004;

(m) To ensure the equal rights of women and girls to education, the effective functioning of schools throughout the country and the admission of women and girls to all levels of education, free from attack, and support the educational needs of those women and girls who were excluded from education in the past;

(n) To respect the equal right of women to work and promote their reintegration in employment in all sectors and at all levels of Afghan society;

(o) To protect the equal right of women and girls to security of person and to bring to justice those responsible for violence against women and girls;

(p) To continue demobilization and disarmament and facilitate the reintegration of women and girls, who have been affected by war, into society and work;

(q) To ensure the effective and equal access of women and girls, on the basis of equality among all Afghans, to the facilities necessary to protect the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, in accordance with the obligations of Afghanistan under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;[2]

(r) To ensure the equal right of women to own land and other property, inter alia, through the right to inheritance, and undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies and access to and control over natural resources as well as access to markets and information;

(s) To consider implementing gender budgeting in the national budget and in all budgets of line ministries;

(t) To ensure that Afghan women are well represented at the upcoming Berlin conference and that during the conference adequate attention is given to issues relating to the rights of women and girls;

(u) To support measures to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls and to hold accountable those who were responsible for gross violations of human rights in the past and to ensure that full investigations are conducted and perpetrators brought to justice, in accordance with international standards, in order to combat impunity;

4. *Encourages* the continuing efforts of the United Nations and its agencies, donors and civil society, guided by Security Council resolution 1325 (2000):

(a) To provide financial and technical assistance, including support to the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission, to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls so as to strengthen the capacity of Afghan women to participate fully and effectively in conflict resolution and peace-building efforts and in civil, political, economic, cultural and social life;

(b) To support fully the Afghan Transitional Authority regarding the participation of women in society, inter alia, by providing support to ministries to develop their capacity to mainstream gender issues into their programmes;

(c) To support capacity-building for Afghan women to enable them to participate fully in all sectors, with special emphasis on ensuring women's participation and representation in all aspects of the electoral process leading to elections later this year;

(d) To provide technical and other relevant assistance so that the judicial system has the capacity to adhere to international standards of human rights;

5. *Invites* the United Nations system, international and non-governmental organizations, and donors:

(a) To ensure a human rights-based approach and coherent policy and resources for gender mainstreaming in all programmes and operations, based on the principles of non-discrimination and equality between women and men, and to ensure that women benefit equally with men from such programmes in all sectors;

(b) To ensure the full and effective participation of Afghan women in all stages of humanitarian assistance, recovery, reconstruction and development, including planning, programme development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;

(c) To support the elements of civil society active in the field of human rights and encourage the involvement of women therein;

(d) To ensure that all their international and national personnel, prior to beginning their service, receive training in gender equality as well as appropriate training in the history, culture and traditions of Afghanistan and are fully familiar with and guided by international standards of human rights;

(e) To integrate efforts to improve the health status of women within all reconstruction efforts, especially through access to skilled prenatal care, increasing access to skilled birth attendance, education programmes on basic health issues, community information activities and emergency obstetric care;

(f) To continue to support measures for the employment of women and the integration of a gender perspective into all social, development and reconstruction programmes, taking into account the special needs of widows and returning refugee and displaced women and girls as well as those living in rural areas;

6. *Strongly urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that the important post of Senior Gender Adviser in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan is filled immediately and with due regard to the need for continuity in this task;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session a report on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.1/Rev.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
10 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Andorra,* Austria,* Belgium,* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Bulgaria,* Canada, Chile, Cyprus,* Czech Republic,* Denmark, Estonia,* Finland,* France,* Germany, Greece,* Guatemala,* Hungary,* Iceland,* Ireland,* Italy,* Japan, Latvia,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Malta,* Netherlands, Poland,* Portugal,* Serbia and Montenegro,* Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Sweden,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,* Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uzbekistan:* draft resolution

The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following resolution:

Situation of women and girls in Afghanistan

The Economic and Social Council,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[2] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[3] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[4] the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[5] the Convention on

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[2] General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.

[4] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

[5] See General Assembly resolution 48/104.

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the Rights of the Child[6] and the Optional Protocols thereto on the involvement of children in armed conflict[7] and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[8] the Beijing Declaration[9] and Platform for Action,[10] the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session,[11] accepted humanitarian rules as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[12] and other instruments of human rights and international law,

Recalling that Afghanistan is a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[13] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[14] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[15] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[16] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[17] the Conventions of 12 August 1949, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[18]

Reaffirming that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the importance of the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), on women and peace and security, and 1460 (2003), on children and armed conflict, and in this context recognizing the recent Security Council mission to Afghanistan, from 30 October to 8 November 2003, which reviewed, inter alia, the humanitarian and human rights situation of women,

Welcoming the entry into force on 26 January 2004 of a new Constitution following the successful outcome of the Constitutional Loya Jirga, at which women played a prominent and crucial role, while also welcoming particularly the provisions of the new Constitution which state that the citizens of Afghanistan, whether men or women, are equal before the law, and which guarantee the rights of women to serve in the National Assembly,

Welcoming also the continuing commitment of the Afghan Transitional Administration to the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls, to the restoration of the active participation of Afghan women in political, economic and social life, to the education of girls as well as boys and to the opportunity for women to work outside the home,

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[6] General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.
[7] General Assembly resolution 54/263, annex I.
[8] Ibid., annex. II.
[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[10] Ibid., annex II.
[11] General Assembly resolution S-23/3, annex.
[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.
[13] General Assembly resolution 260 A (III), annex.
[14] General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.
[15] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.
[16] General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.
[17] General Assembly resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.
[18] A/CONF.183/9.

Welcoming further the fact that the Back-to-School campaign launched by the Ministry of Education and the United Nations Children's Fund has been a major success and 4.2 million children are now enrolled in school, while recognizing the need for the enrolment rate of girls in school to improve considerably,

Welcoming the inclusion of women in the Transitional Administration, the Judicial Reform Commission, the Independent Human Rights Commission, the Constitutional Commission and the Secretariat of the Constitutional Loya Jirga, and stressing the importance of the full and effective participation of women in all decision-making processes regarding the future of Afghanistan,

Welcoming also the fact that the National Development Framework of the Transitional Administration reflects the needs of, and the importance of the role to be taken by, women and girls in the process of peace-building, reconstruction and development, and welcoming in this regard the assistance provided by the international community to achieve these goals,

Welcoming further the efforts of Afghanistan's neighbouring countries, which host millions of Afghan refugees, especially women and children, and have provided humanitarian assistance in many areas, such as education, health and other basic services,

Recognizing that, in spite of recent improvements, women in Afghanistan continue to face serious violations of their rights in many parts of the country and in particular in rural areas,

Recognizing also that Afghan women are primary stakeholders and agents of change, who must have the opportunity to identify their own needs, interests and priorities in all sectors of society as full partners in the rebuilding of their society,

Strongly emphasizing that a safe environment, free from violence, discrimination and abuse, for all Afghans, is essential for a viable and sustainable recovery and reconstruction process,

1. *Welcomes*:

(a) The ongoing commitments made by the Afghan Transitional Administration to recognize, protect and promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to respect and promote respect for international humanitarian law;

(b) The provisions of the new Constitution which state that the citizens of Afghanistan, whether men or women, are equal before the law and that at least two women are to be elected to the Wolesi Jirga (Lower House of Parliament) from each province, as a national average, and which provide for half of the President's nominees to the Meshrano Jirga (Upper House of Parliament) to be women;

(c) The ongoing security sector reform processes being undertaken by the Afghanistan Transitional Administration with the support of the international community, including the demobilization, disarmament and reintegration of former combatants and the recruitment of a new cadre of women police;

2. *Also welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on the Status of Women on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan;[19]

[19] E/CN.6/2004/5.

3. *Urges* the Afghan Transitional Administration and future Government:

(a) To ensure that the provisions of the new Constitution are implemented fully and that any legislative, administrative and other measures support the full enjoyment by women and girls of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including by mainstreaming gender issues into the activities of all Afghanistan Transitional Administration ministries;

(b) To enable the full, equal and effective participation of women and girls in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life throughout the country at all levels;

(c) To protect the right to freedom of movement, expression and association for women and girls;

(d) To implement fully its obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and prepare the initial report due in March 2004 and to raise awareness and strengthen the knowledge of women and girls and their families about their rights, including the full enjoyment of all human rights by women and girls;

(e) To ensure that the electoral processes, including those in 2004, are carried out and monitored closely to make certain that women are able to register, participate fully and support special measures that would guarantee that they are represented in local, provincial and national government positions;

(f) To ensure that the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and the permanent Afghan judicial institutions have adequate human and financial resources to fulfil their mandates and address gender perspectives in line with international standards;

(g) To continue its efforts to re-establish the rule of law, in accordance with international standards, inter alia, by ensuring that law enforcement agencies respect and uphold human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a particular emphasis on access to justice for women;

(h) To continue its efforts to reflect a gender perspective in the training and activities of its police, army, prosecutors and judiciary and to promote the recruitment of Afghan women in all ranks;

(i) To review and improve the practices of law enforcement personnel when dealing with women victims of violence, including domestic and sexual violence, and trafficking, particularly those accused of offences based on tradition or imprisoned for social reasons;

(j) To strengthen efforts, including through legislative measures, to prevent and eliminate violence against women, including domestic and sexual violence and trafficking, inter alia, by raising awareness of the need to prevent and eliminate violence against women, with the aim of changing the attitudes and behaviour that allow such crimes to take place;

(k) To ensure that gender-sensitive approaches are applied in the development and application of procedures during data collection for the census and the registration of voters to deliver universal suffrage and the full participation of women in the national elections in 2004;

(l) To ensure the equal rights of women and girls to education, the effective functioning of schools throughout the country and the admission of women and girls to all levels of education, in a safe and secure environment, and support the educational needs of those women and girls who were excluded from education in the past;

(m) To respect the equal right of women to work and promote their reintegration in employment in all sectors and at all levels of Afghan society;

(n) To protect the equal right of women and girls to security of person and to bring to justice those responsible for violence against women and girls;

(o) To continue demobilization and disarmament and facilitate the reintegration of women and girls who have been affected by war into society and work;

(p) To ensure the effective and equal access of women and girls, on the basis of equality among all Afghans, to the facilities necessary to protect the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, in accordance with the obligations of Afghanistan under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;[2]

(q) To ensure the equal right of women to own land and other property, inter alia, through the right to inheritance, and undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies and access to and control over natural resources as well as access to markets and information;

(r) To consider implementing gender budgeting in the national budget and in all budgets of ministries;

(s) To ensure that Afghan women are well represented at international conferences, and that during the upcoming Berlin Conference adequate attention is given to issues relating to the rights of women and girls;

(t) To support measures to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls and to hold accountable those who were responsible for gross violations of human rights in the past and to ensure that full investigations are conducted and perpetrators brought to justice, in accordance with international standards, in order to combat impunity;

4. *Encourages* the continuing efforts of the United Nations and its agencies, donors and civil society, guided by Security Council resolution 1325 (2000):

(a) To provide financial and technical assistance, including support to the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission, to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls so as to strengthen the capacity of Afghan women to participate fully and effectively in conflict resolution and peace-building efforts and in civil, political, economic, cultural and social life;

(b) To support fully the Afghan Transitional Administration regarding the participation of women in society, inter alia, by providing support to ministries to develop their capacity to mainstream gender issues into their programmes;

(c) To support capacity-building for Afghan women to enable them to participate fully in all sectors, with special emphasis on ensuring women's participation and representation in all aspects of the 2004 electoral process;

(d) To provide technical and other relevant assistance so that the judicial system has the capacity to adhere to international standards of human rights;

5. *Invites* the United Nations system, international and non-governmental organizations, and donors:

(a) To ensure a human rights-based approach and coherent policy and resources for gender mainstreaming in all programmes and operations, based on the principles of non-discrimination and equality between women and men, and to ensure that women benefit equally with men from such programmes in all sectors;

(b) To ensure the full and effective participation of Afghan women in all stages of humanitarian assistance, recovery, reconstruction and development, including planning, programme development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;

(c) To support the elements of civil society active in the field of human rights and encourage the involvement of women therein;

(d) To ensure that all their international and national personnel, prior to beginning their service, receive training in gender equality as well as appropriate training in the history, culture and traditions of Afghanistan and are fully familiar with and guided by international standards of human rights;

(e) To integrate efforts to improve the health status of women within all reconstruction efforts, especially through access to skilled prenatal care, increasing access to skilled birth attendance, education programmes on basic health issues, community information activities and emergency obstetric care;

(f) To continue to support measures for the employment of women and the integration of a gender perspective into all social, development and reconstruction programmes, taking into account the special needs of widows and returning refugee and displaced women and girls as well as those living in rural areas;

6. *Strongly urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that the important post of Senior Gender Adviser in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan is filled immediately and with due regard to the need for continuity in this task;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session a report on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.2

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
5 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Qatar:* draft resolution

The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women,[1]

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action[3] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[4]

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China and in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] E/CN.6/2004/4.

[2] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. 1, sect. A.

[3] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. 1, resolution 1, annex II.

[4] See General Assembly resolutions S-23/2 and S-23/3.

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Recalling also its resolution 2003/42 of 22 July 2003 and other relevant United Nations resolutions,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women[5] as it concerns the protection of civilian populations,

Expressing the urgent need for the resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process on its agreed basis and towards the speedy achievement of a final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Concerned about the grave deterioration of the situation of Palestinian women in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and about the severe consequences of continuous illegal Israeli settlements activities as well as the harsh economic conditions and other severe consequences of the continuing Israeli attacks and sieges on Palestinian cities, towns, villages and refugee camps, which has resulted in the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian women and their families,

Concerned also that the construction of a wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, could prejudge future negotiations and make the two-State solution physically impossible to implement and would cause further humanitarian hardship to the Palestinians, in particular women and children,

Expressing its condemnation of all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially the excessive use of force against Palestinian civilians, many of them women and children, resulting in injury and loss of human life,

1. *Calls upon* the concerned parties, as well as the international community, to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the immediate resumption of the peace process on its agreed basis, taking into account the common ground already gained, and calls for measures for tangible improvement of the difficult situation on the ground and the living conditions faced by Palestinian women and their families;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli occupation remains a major obstacle for Palestinian women with regard to their advancement, self-reliance and integration in the development planning of their society;

3. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions and principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[6] the Regulations annexed to The Hague Convention IV of 18 October 1907[7] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,[8] in order to protect the rights of Palestinian women and their families;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to facilitate the return of all refugees and displaced Palestinian women and children to their homes and properties, in compliance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

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[5] See General Assembly resolution 48/104.

[6] General Assembly resolution 212 A (III).

[7] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

5. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian women and their families and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions;

6. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";[4]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation and to assist Palestinian women by all available means, including those laid out in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women", and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session a report based on the information provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.3

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
5 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Qatar* and Mexico: draft resolution

The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following resolution:

Revitalization and strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling all relevant General Assembly resolutions on the revitalization and strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Recalling also its resolution 2003/57 of 24 July 2003, in which it decided to amend the statute of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Welcoming the establishment of an Executive Board composed of ten Member States as a new governing body of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Taking note of the diverse activities developed by the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women aimed to implement a feasible work programme and fund-raising activities,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China and in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

04-26073 (E) 080304

1. *Decides* to continue to provide its full support to the current efforts to revitalize the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

2. *Welcomes* the appointment by the Secretary-General of the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

3. *Stresses* the critical importance of voluntary financial contributions by Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to enable it to carry out its mandate;

4. *Urges* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund, particularly during this critical transitional period;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General and all the United Nations system to continue and to strengthen their support to the current efforts to revitalize the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in particular throughout its full and active integration in the promotion and advocacy of mainstreaming the gender perspective into the United Nations system;

6. *Decides* to continue to consider the progress of the revitalization of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women during its substantive session of 2004.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.3/Rev.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
10 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Qatar* and Mexico: draft resolution

Revitalization and strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling all relevant General Assembly resolutions on the future operations of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/57 of 24 July 2003, in which the Council decided to amend the statute of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Welcoming the establishment of an Executive Board composed of ten Member States as a new governing body of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

1. *Welcomes* the appointment by the Secretary-General of the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and notes the Director's plan to develop a targeted work programme and fund-raising activities for the Institute;

2. *Invites* voluntary financial contributions by Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and stresses the importance of such contributions to enable it to carry out its mandate, particularly during this critical transitional period;

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China and in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

04-26626 (E) 100304

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General and all relevant United Nations bodies to support efforts to revitalize the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in particular by promoting its collaboration and coordination with other bodies within the United Nations system;

4. *Decides* to continue to encourage efforts to revitalize the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and to monitor progress in this regard during its forty-ninth session.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.4

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
5 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 3
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Angola,* Botswana, Gabon, Ghana,* Lesotho,* Malawi, Mozambique,* Namibia,* Rwanda,* Somalia,* South Africa, Timor-Leste,* United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia* and Zimbabwe:* draft resolution

Women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling the goals and targets set forth in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[1] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, in 2001,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the development goals contained therein, in particular the aim of Member States to have halted, by 2015, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS,[2]

Recalling further its resolution 47/1 of 10 March 2003, entitled "Women, the girl child and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)",

Recalling the agreed conclusions adopted at its forty-sixth session, entitled "Women, the girl child and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)",

Recalling also the Declaration and Plan of Action contained in the final document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

[2] See General Assembly resolution 55/2, para. 19.

04-26079 (E) 090304

world fit for children",[3] and recognizing that their implementation is a major contribution to protecting the rights and promoting the well-being of children,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 58/236 of 23 December 2003, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS",

Noting with grave concern that the majority of new HIV infections occur among young people and that women and girls are disproportionately affected by the pandemic,

Noting also that women's unequal legal and social status heightens their vulnerability to HIV,

Recognizing that populations destabilized by armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters, including refugees, internally displaced persons, and in particular women and children, are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV infection,

Deeply concerned that the global HIV/AIDS pandemic, through its devastating scale and impact, constitutes a global emergency, and that it disproportionately affects women and girls, and emphasizing that violence against women and girls as well as social, cultural, biological and economic factors can increase their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS,

1. *Stresses* that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are fundamental elements in the reduction of their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, and emphasizes that the advancement of women and girls is key to reversing the pandemic;

2. *Reaffirms* the need for Governments, supported by relevant actors, to continue to implement the commitments on HIV/AIDS contained in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and to work towards effectively reflecting in their national policies and strategies the gender dimension of the pandemic, in line with the time-bound goals of the Declaration;

3. *Urges* Governments to take all necessary measures to strengthen women's economic independence and to protect and promote their human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to allow them to protect themselves from HIV infection;

4. *Also urges* Governments to strengthen initiatives that would increase the capacities of women and adolescent girls to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection, principally through the provision of health care and health services, including for sexual and reproductive health and through prevention education that promotes gender equality within a culturally and gender sensitive framework;

5. *Calls upon* Governments to intensify efforts to challenge gender stereotypes, stigmatization, attitudes and gender inequalities in relation to HIV/AIDS and to encourage the active involvement of men and boys;

6. *Encourages* the continued collaboration and cooperation of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and other United Nations agencies to cope with the growing links between HIV/AIDS and other humanitarian programmes;

[3] General Assembly resolution S-27/2, annex.

7. *Welcomes* the financial contributions made to date towards the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, urges further contributions to sustain the Fund, and calls upon all countries to encourage the private sector to contribute to the Fund;

8. *Also welcomes* the commitment by the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to work with the international community to support developing countries in achieving the target of providing antiretroviral medicines to 3 million people infected with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2005, the "3 by 5" target, recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/29 of 29 April 2003, entitled "Access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria";

9. *Encourages* the ongoing work by the United Nations system in providing widespread information on the gender dimension of the pandemic and in raising awareness about the critical intersection between gender inequality and HIV/AIDS;

10. *Emphasizes* the rapid scaling up of programmes for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and ensuring that levels of uptake are sufficient to achieve the desired public health impact and encourage men to participate with women in programmes designed to prevent mother-to-child transmission;

11. *Reaffirms* the importance of young men and women having access to information, education, including peer education and youth specific HIV education, and services necessary to develop the life skills required to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection, in full participation with young persons, parents, families, educators and health-care providers;

12. *Calls* for enhanced efforts by all relevant actors to include a gender perspective in the development of HIV/AIDS programmes and policies and in the training of personnel involved in implementing such programmes, including through focusing on the role of men and boys in addressing HIV/AIDS;

13. *Urges* Governments to continue to promote the participation and the significant contribution of people living with HIV/AIDS, young people and civil society actors in addressing the problem of HIV/AIDS in all its aspects;

14. *Calls upon* all Governments to take measures to ensure that the necessary resources are made available, in particular from donor countries and also from national budgets in line with the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in his comprehensive and analytical report on progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, in particular those set out for 2005, with a view to identifying problems and constraints and making recommendations on action needed to make further progress as requested in General Assembly resolution 58/236, to take a gender perspective fully into account.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.4/Rev.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
22 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 3
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Algeria, Angola,* Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana,* Guinea, Greece, Guyana, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho,* Malawi, Mozambique,* Namibia,* Peru, Portugal, Rwanda,* Senegal, Somalia,* South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste,* Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia* and Zimbabwe:* revised draft resolution

Women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling the goals and targets set forth in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[1] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, in 2001, and the HIV/AIDS-related goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 2000, in particular the aim of Member States to have halted, by 2015, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS,[2]

Recalling also its resolutions 46/2 of 15 March 2002 and 47/1 of 10 March 2003, entitled "Women, the girl child and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)",

Recalling further the Declaration and Plan of Action contained in the final document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

[2] See General Assembly resolution 55/2, para. 19.

04-27938 (E) 230304

world fit for children",[3] and recognizing that their implementation is a major contribution to protecting the rights and promoting the well-being of children,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 58/236 of 23 December 2003, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS",

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 203/29 of 29 April 2003, entitled, "Access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria",

Welcoming the launch of the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS by the Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS and partners, in February 2004, which seeks to raise awareness of the affects of HIV/AIDS on women and girls and to stimulate and increase action in the fight against HIV/AIDS,

Acknowledging that prevention, care, support and treatment for those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS are mutually reinforcing elements of an effective response and must be integrated in a comprehensive approach to combat the epidemic,

Recognizing that populations destabilized by armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters, including refugees, internally displaced persons, and in particular women and children, are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV infection,

Deeply concerned that the global HIV/AIDS pandemic disproportionately affects women and girls, and that the majority of new HIV infections occurs among young people,

Concerned that women's unequal legal, economic and social status and violence against women and girls as well as other cultural and physiological factors increase their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS,

Also concerned that women and girls have different and unequal access to and use of health resources for the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS,

1. *Stresses with deep concern* that the HIV/AIDS emergency, with its devastating scale and impact, requires urgent actions in all fields and at all levels;

2. *Also stresses* that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are fundamental elements in the reduction of their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, and emphasizes that the advancement of women and girls is key to reversing the pandemic;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for Governments, supported by relevant actors, including civil society, to intensify national efforts and international cooperation in the implementation of the commitments on HIV/AIDS contained in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and to work towards effectively reflecting in their national policies and strategies the gender dimension of the pandemic, in line with the time-bound goals of the Declaration;

4. *Urges* Governments to take all necessary measures to empower women and strengthen their economic independence and to protect and promote their full

[3] General Assembly resolution S-27/2, annex.

enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to enable them to protect themselves from HIV infection;

5. *Also urges* Governments to strengthen initiatives that would increase the capacities of women and adolescent girls to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection, principally through the provision of health care and health services, including for sexual and reproductive health and through prevention education that promotes gender equality within a culturally and gender sensitive framework;

6. *Further urges* Governments to expand access to treatment, in a progressive and sustainable manner, including the prevention and treatment of opportunistic diseases and effective use of antiretroviral medication and to promote access to low-cost effective drugs and related pharmaceutical products;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to intensify efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls in relation to HIV/AIDS, including through challenging stereotypes, stigmatization, discriminatory attitudes and gender inequalities and to encourage the active involvement of men and boys in this regard;

8. *Encourages* the continued collaboration among the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the World Health Organization, other United Nations agencies, as well as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and other international organizations to address and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, in particular in the context of emergency situations and as part of humanitarian efforts, and also encourages the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in their work;

9. *Welcomes* the commitment by the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to work with the international community to support developing countries in achieving the target of providing antiretroviral medicines to 3 million people infected with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2005, the "3 by 5" target;

10. *Encourages* the ongoing work by the United Nations system in providing widespread information on the gender dimension of the pandemic and in raising awareness about the critical intersection between gender inequality and HIV/AIDS;

11. *Emphasizes* the need for the rapid scaling up of treatment programmes to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV and to encourage men to participate with women in programmes designed to prevent mother-to-child transmission;

12. *Encourages* the design and implementation of programmes to enable men, including young men, to adopt safe and responsible sexual and reproductive behaviour, and to use effective methods to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of young men and women having access to the information, education, including peer education and youth specific HIV education, and services necessary to develop the life skills required to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection, in full participation with young persons, parents, families, educators and health-care providers;

14. *Calls* for enhanced efforts by all relevant actors to include a gender perspective in the development of HIV/AIDS programmes and policies and in the training of personnel involved in implementing such programmes, including through focusing on the role of men and boys in addressing HIV/AIDS;

15. *Urges* Governments to continue to promote the participation and the significant contribution of people living with HIV/AIDS, young people and civil society actors in addressing the problem of HIV/AIDS in all its aspects, including promoting a gender perspective, and also to promote their full involvement and participation in the design, planning, implementation and evaluation of HIV/AIDS programmes;

16. *Welcomes* financial contributions made to date towards the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, urges further contributions to sustain the Fund, and calls upon all countries to encourage the private sector to contribute to the Fund;

17. *Calls upon* all Governments to take measures to ensure that the necessary resources are made available, in particular from donor countries and also from national budgets in line with the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;

18. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take a gender perspective into account when preparing the report requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/236.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.5

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
8 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 3
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Azerbaijan, Bangladesh,* Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Burkina Faso, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan,* Malaysia, Turkey and Uzbekistan:* draft resolution

Release of women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned, in armed conflicts

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the release of women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned, in armed conflicts,

Recalling also the relevant provisions contained in the instruments of international humanitarian law relative to the protection of the civilian population as such,

Taking into account the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/146 of 17 December 1979, which recognizes that everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person and that the taking of hostages is an offence of grave concern to the international community,

Reaffirming the commitments made in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[1] as well as in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[2] and the outcome document of the special session

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13).

[2] General Assembly resolutions S-23/2, annex, and S-23/3, annex.

04-26203 (E) 080304

of the Assembly on children entitled "A world fit for children",[3] including the provisions therein regarding violence against women and children,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2001/38 of 23 April 2001[4] and 2003/40 of 23 April 2003[5] on hostage-taking, as well as General Assembly resolution 57/220 of 18 December 2002,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women, peace and security,

Expressing grave concern at the continuation of armed conflicts in many regions throughout the world and the human suffering and humanitarian emergencies they have caused,

Emphasizing that all forms of violence in areas of armed conflict committed against the civilian population as such, including taking women and children hostage, seriously contravene international humanitarian law, in particular as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[6]

Concerned that, despite the efforts of the international community, acts of hostage-taking in different forms and manifestations, inter alia, those committed by terrorists and armed groups, continue to take place and have even increased in many regions of the world,

Recognizing that hostage-taking calls for resolute, firm and concerted efforts on the part of the international community, in conformity with international humanitarian law and in accordance with international human rights standards, in order to bring such abhorrent practices to an end,

Expressing its strong belief that the rapid and unconditional release of women and children taken hostage in areas of armed conflict will promote the implementation of the noble goals enshrined in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, as well as the outcome document of the special session of the Assembly on children entitled "A world fit for children", including the provisions therein regarding violence against women and children,

1. *Reaffirms* that hostage-taking, wherever and by whomever committed, is an illegal act aimed at the destruction of human rights and is, under any circumstances, unjustifiable, including as a means to promote and protect human rights;

2. *Condemns* violent acts in contravention of international humanitarian law against the civilian population, as such, in areas of armed conflict, and calls for an effective response to such acts, in particular the immediate release of women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned, in armed conflicts;

3. *Also condemns* the consequences of hostage-taking, in particular torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, murder, rape,

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[3] General Assembly resolution S-27/2, annex.

[4] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[5] *Ibid., 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, nos. 970-973.

slavery, and trafficking in women and children for the purpose of subjecting them to sexual exploitation, or imposing forced labour or services;

4. *Strongly urges* all parties to armed conflicts to respect fully the norms of international humanitarian law in armed conflict and to take all necessary measures for the protection of the civilian population, as such, and to release immediately all women and children who have been taken hostage;

5. *Urges* all parties to armed conflicts to provide safe unimpeded access to humanitarian assistance for those women and children in accordance with international humanitarian law;

6. *Stresses* both the need to put an end to impunity and the responsibility of all States to prosecute in accordance with international law those responsible for war crimes, including hostage-taking;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the access of relevant international organizations to accurate verifiable data so as to facilitate the release of hostages and, to this end, calls upon all parties to armed conflict to provide, and assist those organizations in gathering, maximum objective information in this regard;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, within the context of the present resolution, the widest possible dissemination of relevant material, in particular that relating to Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), within existing resources;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and all relevant international organizations to use their capabilities and undertake efforts to facilitate the immediate release of civilian women and children who have been taken hostage;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the information provided by States and relevant international organizations;

11. *Decides* to consider the question at its fiftieth session.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.6

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
8 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Australia,* Austria,* Azerbaijan, Bangladesh,* Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria,* Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Czech Republic,* Democratic Republic of the Congo,* Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland,* France,* Germany, Greece,* Guatemala, Hungary,* Iceland,* India, Indonesia, Ireland,* Italy,* Japan, Latvia,* Liechtenstein,* Luxembourg,* Mali,* Malta,* Mexico,* Netherlands, New Zealand,* Nigeria, Norway,* Peru, Poland,* Portugal,* Republic of Korea, Senegal,* Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Sweden,* Switzerland,* Thailand, Timor-Leste,* Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America: draft resolution

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling its resolutions 45/2 of 17 March 2001, 46/3 of 15 March 2002 and 47/2 of 13 March 2003, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2001/41 of 26 July 2001, 2002/23 of 24 July 2002 and 2003/49 of 24 July 2003 and General Assembly resolutions 56/132 of 19 December 2001, 57/182 of 18 December 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002 and 58/148 of 22 December 2003,

Welcoming the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] and its call for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women,

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* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedue of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

04-26219 (E) 090304

Welcoming also the inclusion of a sub-item in the agenda of the Economic and Social Council entitled "Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system", and the opportunity such inclusion provides to consider further measures to strengthen the implementation and monitoring of gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system,

Welcoming further the decision of the Economic and Social Council to devote a coordination segment in 2004 to a review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of its agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system,[2]

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for promoting gender equality, which requires making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated,

Reaffirming also that gender mainstreaming constitutes a critical strategy in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[4]

Recognizing that enhancing women's opportunities, potential and activities requires a dual focus, namely, programmes aimed at meeting the basic as well as the specific needs of women for capacity-building, organizational development and empowerment, together with gender mainstreaming in all programme formulation and implementation activities,

Expressing its concern that gender equality is not yet fully integrated into the work of the United Nations,

Underlining the catalytic role of the Commission in promoting gender mainstreaming,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken and progress achieved in the follow-up to and implementation of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", especially in mainstreaming gender perspectives in entities of the United Nations system;[5]

2. *Also welcomes* the ongoing activities undertaken and efforts made by entities of the United Nations system to promote an active and visible policy of gender mainstreaming;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the assessment, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General, of the remaining gaps in frameworks for gender equality policies and strategies and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into all policies

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[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3), chap. IV, para.4.

[3] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13).

[4] General Assembly resolutions S-23/2 and S-23/3.

[5] E/CN.6/2004/3.

and programmes of the entities of the United Nations, and of the role and effectiveness of existing institutional mechanisms;

4. *Expresses its concern* at the remaining constraints on the full implementation of gender mainstreaming into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system, including inadequate support for and follow-up of gender equality policies and strategies, poor utilization of gender analysis, inadequate monitoring mechanisms, and a number of ongoing critical institutional constraints;

5. *Invites* all entities of the United Nations system, in pursuit of governmental and intergovernmental commitments to gender mainstreaming and gender equality goals, to:

(a) Increase the exchange of experiences, good practice, tools and methods in respect of gender mainstreaming through, inter alia, the more effective utilization of existing networks, and, within existing mandates, to incorporate gender perspectives in inter-agency coordination in all areas;

(b) Link existing gender equality policies to organizational goals, develop and strengthen strategies and action plans to support the implementation of such policies, and assess the impact of such policies and strategies so that constraints on their full implementation may be identified and addressed;

(c) Integrate gender perspectives into organizational policies and sectoral policies and strategies, inter alia, through increased attention to gender perspectives in relevant medium-term plans and programme budgets;

(d) Increase the capacity for and better utilize gender analysis at both policy and programme levels, inter alia, through integrating gender perspectives more fully into existing analyses, mechanisms and tools, and improve mechanisms for monitoring and reporting on the practical implementation of the incorporation of gender perspectives into programmes;

(e) Ensure that gender specialists and focal points have access to information, adequate resources and explicit support from management at various levels, and strengthen the commitment and leadership role of managers in the gender mainstreaming process;

(f) Incorporate gender perspectives into all existing training programmes, assess the impact of such training programmes and develop strategies to improve their effectiveness where necessary, inter alia, through focusing resources on training specifically tailored to the needs of participants and on follow-up processes;

(g) Increase the involvement of men in promoting the implementation of gender mainstreaming, including as specialists, focal points and trainers;

(h) Require sex-disaggregation of all relevant data and the collection of gender-specific information as the basis for all policy analysis;

(i) Continue to support Governments in their efforts to implement gender mainstreaming;

6. *Recommends* to the Economic and Social Council that it incorporate into its review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of its agreed conclusions 1997/2,[2] the assessment of the remaining gaps in the frameworks for gender equality policies and strategies and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives

into all policies and programmes of the entities of the United Nations, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include an assessment of the implementation of the present resolution in his report to the Commission at its forty-ninth session on the measures taken and progress achieved in the follow-up to and implementation of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", especially in mainstreaming gender perspectives in entities of the United Nations system.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.7

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
8 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 4
Communications concerning the status of women

Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Germany, Guatemala, Netherlands, New Zealand,* Peru and Republic of Korea: draft decision

The Commission on the Status of Women, recalling its decision 47/102 on the future status of the communications procedure of the Commission on the Status of Women, recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Communications concerning the status of women

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Commission on the Status of Women as set out in its resolutions 76 (V) of 5 August 1947, 340 I (XI) of 14 and 17 July 1950, 1983/27 of 26 May 1983, 1992/19 of 30 June 1992 and 1993/11 of 27 July 1993,

1. *Decides*, in order to make the communications procedure of the Commission on the Status of Women more effective and efficient, to request the Secretary-General:

(a) To renew his efforts to actively seek information and communications on the status of women received by the specialized agencies, regional commission and other United Nations bodies, including human rights treaty bodies and special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights, together with information on action that may have been taken following the receipt of such communications, for the purpose of submitting it in his annual report on confidential and non-confidential communications to the Commission on the Status of Women;

(b) To include the relevant parts of reports of treaty bodies and special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights in his annual report on confidential and non-confidential communications to the Commission on the Status of Women;

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

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2. *Reminds* treaty bodies and special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights to consistently give attention to gender equality in their reports, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/49;

3. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the future status of the communications procedure, the report of the Secretary-General, and the different views expressed by Member States during the debate on the item at its forty-ninth session.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.8

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
9 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 6
Provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Commission

Draft provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work

3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century":

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan

Report on the joint work plan of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the activities of the Fund to eliminate violence against women

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the results of the thirty-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

(a) Review of gender mainstreaming in entities of the United Nations system;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken and progress achieved in the follow-up to and implementation of the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, with

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an assessment of progress made in mainstreaming a gender perspective within the United Nations system

(b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;

(c) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives:

(i) Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";

(ii) Current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls.

Documentation

Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (thematic issue before the Commission)

Current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls (thematic issue before the Commission)

Note by the Bureau of the Commission: discussion guide on the high-level round table of the Commission

4. Communications concerning the status of women.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of confidential communications concerning the status of women

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of non-confidential communications concerning the status of women

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.

Documentation

Letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council addressed to the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women

Note by the Secretariat as an input to the high-level segment of the 2005 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

6. Provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-ninth session.

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Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
9 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 7
Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-eighth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Lala **Ibrahimova** (Azerbaijan)

Chapter ___. Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission on the Status of Women held its forty-eighth session at United Nations Headquarters from 1 to 12 March 2004. The Commission held _____ meetings (1st to __).

2. The session was opened by the Chairperson of the forty-eighth session of the Commission, Kyung-wha Kang (Republic of Korea), who also made a statement.

B. Attendance

3. The session was attended by representatives of 45 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended.

C. Officers of the Commission

4. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/21, the officers elected to the Bureau of the Commission should serve a term of office of two years. The following officers were elected at the 1st meeting of the forty-eighth session, on 25 March 2003, to serve during the forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions:

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Chairperson:
Kyung-wha Kang (Republic of Korea)

Vice-Chairpersons:
Carmen-Rosa Arias (Peru)
Tebatso Baleseng (Botswana)
Lala Ibrahimova (Azerbaijan) (who also served as Rapporteur*)
Beatrice Maillé (Canada)

D. Agenda and organization of work

5. At its 1st meeting, on 1 March, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda and approved its organization of work as contained in document E/CN.6/2004/1, as orally revised. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century":
   (a) Review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system;
   (b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;
   (c) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives;
      (i) The role of men and boys in achieving gender equality;
      (ii) Women's equal participation in conflict prevention, management and conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace-building.
4. Communications concerning the status of women.
5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.
6. Provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-eighth session.

* Elected to serve for the forty-eighth session only. Marine Davtyan (Armenia) was elected to serve for the forty-ninth session.

E. Appointment of the members of a working group on communications on the status of women

6. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27, the Commission established a working group to consider communications concerning the status of women. The following five members, nominated by their regional groups, were appointed:

Alberto D'Alotto (Argentina)
Marine Davtyan (Armenia)
Nicole Elisha (Benin)
Miho Ohashi (Japan)
Martin Thuemmel (Germany)

7. The working group held six meetings.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.10

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
11 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
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Agenda item 4
Communications concerning the status of women

Bangladesh,* China, Cuba, Egypt,* India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic* and Viet Nam:* amendments to draft resolution E/CN.6/2004/L.7

Communications concerning the status of women

1. Replace the lead-in paragraph with the following text:

"The Commission on the Status of Women brings to the attention of the Economic and Social Council the following resolution".

2. Replace the first preambular paragraph with the following text:

"*The Commission on the Status of Women*,

"*Recalling* the mandate of the Commission on the Status of Women as set out in Economic and Social Council resolutions 76 (V) of 5 August 1947, 340 I (XI) of 14 and 17 July 1950, 1983/27 of 26 May 1983, 1992/19 of 30 June 1992 and 1993/11 of 27 July 1993 and decision 2002/235 of 24 July 2002, as well as Commission on the Status of Women decision 47/102 of 14 March 2003".

3. Add a new preambular paragraph after the first preambular paragraph, reading:

"*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/2004/11) on the future work of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women, which, inter alia, includes the written views of Member States as well as different views expressed by Member States in preliminary discussion at the forty-eighth session of the Commission".

4. Replace operative paragraph 1 (a) with the following text:

"(a) To renew his efforts to seek communications on the status of women received under Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27 for

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

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the purpose of submitting them in his report on confidential and non-confidential communications to the Commission on the Status of Women".

5. Replace operative paragraph 1 (b) with the following text:

"(b) To further publicize the communications procedure of the Commission".

6. Add a new operative paragraph 1 (c), reading:

"(c) To renew efforts to make the existing procedure for receiving and considering communications, including the standard of admissibility, more transparent and efficient and avoid duplication with work undertaken by other organs of the Economic and Social Council".

7. In operative paragraph 2, replace the words "*Reminds* treaty bodies and special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights" with the words "*Reminds* specialized agencies, regional commissions and other United Nations bodies".

8. Replace operative paragraph 3 with the following text:

"3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report different views expressed by Member States during relevant debates and information on measures taken by the Division for the Advancement of Women to further publicize the existing procedure".

9. Add a new operative paragraph 4, reading:

"4. *Decides* to continue consideration of the future status of the communications procedure at its fiftieth session".

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Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
11 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 4
Communications concerning the status of women

Tunisia:* draft decision

The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Communications concerning the status of women

The Economic and Social Council, taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the future work of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women,[1] which, inter alia, includes the written views of Member States as well as the different views expressed by Member States during the preliminary discussion at the forty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, and taking into account the consideration by the Commission at its forty-eighth session of the report of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women and the discussion concerning the status of women, decides that the Commission on the Status of Women will postpone consideration of the future work of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women until its forty-ninth session.

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States and in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] E/CN.6/2004/11.

04-26700 (E) 110304

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.12

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
11 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
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Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Draft resolution submitted by the Bureau of the Commission of the Status of Women on the basis of informal consultations

Preparations for the forty-ninth session of the Commission

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Underlining the significance of its forty-ninth session, which will mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[1] the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] and the thirtieth anniversary of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

Noting that the Commission will undertake, at its forty-ninth session, a review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", and consider current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls,

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

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Building upon its agreed conclusions 1996/1,[3] and taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/27 of 26 July 2001 and General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003,

Considering the special nature of the task before the Commission at its forty-ninth session,

1. *Decides* to focus on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly through the expanded use of interactive dialogue, and with broad-based participation of governmental delegations at the highest level of responsibility and expertise, and of civil society and organizations within the United Nations system, bearing in mind the need to integrate a gender perspective in the implementation and review of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[4]

2. *Also decides* to emphasize the sharing of experiences and good practices on overcoming remaining challenges to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

3. *Further decides* to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it recommend to the General Assembly the convening of a high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to which the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session will transfer its general debate on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* its Bureau, in preparation for the forty-ninth session of the Commission, to take into account the views expressed by the representatives at its forty-eighth session and to continue the practice of periodically convening meetings of the Bureau open to the participation of all interested States.

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[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1996, Supplement No. 6* (E/1996/26), chap. I, sect. C.

[4] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

United Nations E/CN.6/2004/L.13

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
11 March 2004

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-eighth session
1-12 March 2004
Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Draft decision submitted by the Bureau of the Commission of the Status of Women on the basis of informal consultations

Working methods of the Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women, having examined, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, its methods of work in order to better pursue the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/27 of 26 July 2001, and noting its past efforts to enhance its methods of work, decides:

(a) To enhance the use at its annual sessions of interactive events that will increase the emphasis of the Commission on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[1] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the sharing of experience and good practices;

(b) To further explore options for the multi-year programme of work, bearing in mind, inter alia, the experience gained by other functional commissions, with the goal of improving the effectiveness and flexibility of the Commission on the Status of Women; in this regard, the Commission may wish to consider reducing both the number of thematic issues and the use of agreed conclusions per session;

(c) To explore ways to make better use of its standing agenda item on emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men; any inclusion of emerging issues would take into account the framework of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and would be on the basis of agreed and transparent procedures for selection and consideration by Member States;

(d) To continue discussion of these issues during the forty-ninth session of the Commission.